

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A gel composition for protein and calcium supplementation comprising the following components and having a pH in the range of 3 to 4:

Protein or its hydrolysate that does not coagulate at

pH 3 to pH 4

[[3]]5.5- 8 wt.%

Calcium

0.1 - 0.5 wt.%

Acidulant

0.5 - 3 wt.%

Carbohydrate

4 - 20 wt.%

Fat

0 - 5 wt.%

Emulsifying agent

0 - 0.5 wt.%

Agar

0.1 - 1 wt.%

Guar gum or gellan gum

about 0.05 – about 0.3 wt.%

~~One masking agent selected from~~

A masking component including

(a) fruit juice and

~~the group consisting of hard-to-digest~~

(b) hard-to-digest dextrin or reduced hard-to-digest

~~dextrin and reduced hard-to-digest dextrin~~

0.1-20 wt.%

Water

65 - 90 wt.%

2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): The gel composition according to claim 1, further comprising vitamin D in an amount of 0.1×10^{-6} to 10×10^{-6} wt.%.

4. (previously presented): The gel composition according to claim 1, wherein the protein that does not coagulate at pH 3 to pH 4 is at least one member selected from the group consisting of whey protein concentrates, whey protein isolates, desalted whey, and protein hydrolysates having a number average molecular weight of 500 to 10000.

5. (previously presented): The gel composition according to claim 1, comprising gellan gum.

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): The gel composition according to claim 1, wherein the masking agent is reduced hard-to-digest dextrin component is the masking component including (a) fruit juice and (b) reduced hard-to-digest dextrin.